WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub A7

1. An electronic camera which records, by separately compressing, a plurality of screens of image signals to a recording medium, comprising:

an image sensor for outputting camera signals of a subject at a predetermined time interval;

a processor for creating said plurality of image signals from said camera signals outputted from said image sensor;

a calculator for calculating an optimal compression ratio for compressing a preceding one of said image signals to a target size;

a compressor for compressing a current one of said image signals with said optimal compression ratio; and

a recorder for recording to said recording medium said plurality of screens of compressed image signals created by said compressor.

2. An electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said calculator calculates said optimal compression ratio based on an arbitrary compression ratio, a signal size that said preceding image signal has been compressed with said arbitrary compression ratio, and said target size.

3. An electronic camera according to claim 1, further comprising a selector for selecting one of a first recording mode to create within said recording medium a plurality of still image files separately accommodating said plurality of screens of said compressed image signals and a second recording mode to create within said recording medium one motion image file collectively accommodating said plurality of screens of compressed image signal, wherein said processor creates a first resolution of an image signal when said first recording mode is selected and a second resolution of an image signal when said second recording mode is selected, and said target size being different between said first

recording mode and said second recording mode.

4. An electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein said first resolution is higher than said second resolution, and said target size in said first recording mode being greater than said target size in said second recording mode.

5. An electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein said processor creates one screen of image signal at a first predetermined interval when said first recording mode is selected and one screen of image signal at a second predetermined interval when said second recording mode is selected.

6. An electronic camera according to claim 5, wherein said first predetermined interval is longer than said second predetermined interval.